

## PRESS RELEASE



### Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure

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## Alaska Pipeline Corrosion Hearing Scheduled For September

**Washington, D.C. - Programs and methods to prevent future pipeline corrosion problems on low stress lines to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline will be the focus of a Congressional oversight hearing on September 13<sup>th</sup>.**

The hearing by the **U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee**, chaired by **U.S. Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska)**, is schedule to begin at **11 a.m. on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, in 2167 Rayburn House Office Building**. A live webcast of the hearing will be available at the Committee's website:

[www.house.gov/transportation](http://www.house.gov/transportation)

British Petroleum was forced to shut down half of its oil production in Prudhoe Bay due to extensive corrosion in its low stress lines to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. An estimated 16 miles of pipe will have to be replaced due to corrosion.

While the Trans-Alaska Pipeline operation and maintenance is highly regulated by the State of Alaska and federal government, the low stress lines like the BP pipes that suffered extensive corrosion are currently not regulated for integrity management.

The Trans-Alaska Pipeline is the largest energy artery in North America. It was constructed to deliver two million barrels per day of oil from Alaska's North Slope to consumers on the West Coast, but it now operates at less than half capacity because the existing oil fields are running dry.

BP's recent problems have further cut the amount of oil going through the pipeline to less than one-third of its capacity to about 600,000 barrels per day.

The hearing will include officials from British Petroleum and federal and state pipeline protection agencies. Young said the goal is to determine the best programs and methods to prevent future corrosion problems in the pipeline system.

**For additional information, access the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee website at:**  
**[www.house.gov/transportation](http://www.house.gov/transportation)**

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